

MINUTES
TOWN OF MONTAGUE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT
1 Avenue A (2nd Floor) Turners Falls, MA
January 14, 2019

A meeting of the Montague Board of Assessors was held on Monday, January 14, 2019.

Assessors present: Chairman Paul Emery, Terry Miner, Ann Cenzano and Karen Tonelli, Director of Assessing. Also present was Kip Komosa who arrived later. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The Board voted unanimously.

The Assessors signed a revised Certificate of Rollback Tax and a Warrant for the Mankowsky property which totaled \$1,548.13. This figure had been recalculated to include additional interest due to the postponement of the real estate closing from August, 2018 to this week. The Assessors also signed two (2) separate Release of Liens per the request of the attorney.

The board signed monthly abatement summaries for abatements/exemption issued in December, 2018. The Assessors also signed the Assessors Notice for filing of Forms of Lists. This was posted in the outside office.

The Assessors reviewed the FY2020 budget. Only major increase was in legal and this was for anticipated costs associated with the FirstLight appeal.

The Board signed three (3) Denials of Motor Vehicle Excise Abatements submitted by Vehicle Asset. The Board also signed an MVE Recommitment for a 2010 excise bill totaling \$10.00.

Mr. Komosa was present to discuss his Chapter 61A application and the correspondence recently sent to him by the Board regarding income produced in Montague. Mr. Komosa asked what documentation was needed in addition to the farm income portion of his tax return and a photograph of himself on a tractor. He also asked what documentation was requested from other farmers in Montague. Mr. Komosa had previously filed a FOIA request for tax returns received by the Board from other farmers. Karen explained that page from his tax return showed the total farm income received which includes his classified land in Deerfield and that the Board was attempting to determine income derived from the land in Montague. A discussion ensued as to how he could best to provide that

information. The current application listed \$1,150 for income. Mr. Komosa indicated he puts the hay bales from Montague in his barn in Deerfield with hay from Deerfield. The Assessors clarified that photographs and statements from neighbors would not be considered sufficient to establish income in the future and Mr. Komosa will separately document either number of hay bales produced in Montague or the income produced from the sale of farm products produced in Montague.

The Board members reviewed and voted unanimously to approve the following **Chapter 61B** application received for FY2020:

D. Garvin

The Board members reviewed and voted unanimously to approve the following **Chapter 61A** applications received for FY2020:

William Hunting (61A) Forest Management Plan acres
Kip Komosa

The Board members reviewed and voted unanimously to partially approve the following **Chapter 61A** applications received for FY2020:

Claire Senn

The Board members reviewed and voted unanimously to deny the following **Chapter 61A** applications received for FY2020:

James Senn – The 36.1 acres parcel submitted is completely forested. No Forest Management Plan exists

William L. Hunting – No previous applications received. No income indicated.

The Assessors meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen M. Tonelli, M.A.A.
Director of Assessor

Approved:_____

List of Documents

FY2020 Chapter Applications and documents attached

Rollback Certificate/Warrant/Liens Chapter 61A Mankowsky

December 2018 Monthly summary of abatements/exemptions

FY2020 BOA Budget Request

MVE Denials – Vehicle Asset